

I.O. 5495

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Shanghai Municipal Police.



I. O. CENTRAL Station.

January 30, 1925.

REPORT ON Bolshevist propaganda.

Made by D. S. Korolkoff. Forwarded by Director of Criminal Intelligence.

Sir,

An informer reports that the local Bolsheviki have received an order from Peking instructing them to spread, particularly amongst foreigners here, and to boom by every means the following rumour: The Russian "Whites" attached to the Fengtien Army have been instructed to join the local "Whites" who are being organized at present. After all Russian units both from the Fengtien Army and local men are gathered together, which can be accomplished within three or four days, the combined forces will attempt to seize Shanghai, slay Europeans here, seize all valuables from the Banks and also all documents from foreign Consulates. The valuables and documents will be delivered to the local Soviet authorities. For these acts a full amnesty will be granted to the "Whites" and they will be repatriated, whilst Ataman Semenov, who is alleged to be the leader of this movement, will not only be fully pardoned by the Soviet, but in addition will be appointed Governor General of Siberia."

It is stated that Bolsheviki agents are already spreading this rumour, and one of them named Yeropis, is alleged to have visited Mr. Gherednichenko, who is an agent of the French authorities, Mr. Mendrin, who is stated to be in close connection with the British Consulate here, and also some other persons. The object of spreading such a rumour is to discredit the "Whites" and to prevent them from being organized, to sow discord amongst them and to prevent them from further strengthening as every "white" organization, particularly "White" detachments, are considered by the Bolsheviki as a direct menace to their influence

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and activities in China.

It is stated that Ataman Bernoff recently sent an order to General Anissimoff saying that the men under his command (about 300 on board the S.S. "Mongurai") prepare to join General Nechayeff's detachment in the Fengtien forces and to return to Manchuria with General Nechayeff.

Comment. It is possible that Anissimoff's men (whose organization was not dissolved during their stay on board the above ship) will be sent to Mongolia to guard the concessions belonging to Ataman Semennoff there with which the newly established by Ataman Semennoff "Mongolia Trading Co" will deal.

The latest information goes to show that General Chang Chung-Chang, the head of the Fengtien troops and representative of Chang Tso-Lin, who arrived in Shanghai yesterday, has brought with him Mr. Nicholas Merkulooff, brother of the former leader of the anti-Bolshevick Government in Primoria and a member of the above Government. Mr. Merkulooff who is an old friend of General Chang-Chung-Chang having had business connection in Manchuria many years ago, is now private adviser to the General. The presence amongst the Fengtien troops of Mr. Merkulooff and Colonel Mikhaloff, of the General Staff, who, in 1921 organized in Primoria an anti-Bolshevist revolt which resulted in the authority in Primoria reverting to an anti-Bolshevist Government headed by Mr. S. Merkulooff, guarantees, it is said, that nothing of an anti-foreign nature will be done nor will any misbehaviour by the troops be allowed.

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No recruiting of "Whites" will take place. It is possible that besides a group headed by General Anissimoff, another group of "White" Russians numbering about 20 men, former members of the "Ustob" trading company, who came here on board the S.S. "Eldorado" with General Lebedeff about 2 years ago, will also join General Nechayeff's detachment on his return northwards.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. Korolnoff

D. S.

D. U. I.